

CLAIMS

1. A method of preparing a part for cleaning, comprising the steps of:
providing a part with an internal cavity, at least one opening in communication with said cavity, and foreign material within said cavity; and
creating an additional opening in said part at a location adjacent said foreign material.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of locating said foreign material within said cavity, wherein said creating step is responsive to said locating step.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein said locating step comprises visual recognition.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein said locating step comprises x-ray, n-ray, ultrasonic or thermal imaging analysis.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said cavity has a passageway from an inlet to an outlet, and said location of said additional opening is downstream of said foreign material.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said part is a blade or vane.
7. A method of cleaning a part, comprising the steps of:
providing a part with an internal cavity, at least one opening in communication with said cavity;
creating an additional opening in said part; and

flushing said cavity with a fluid;

wherein said additional opening acts as an exit or entrance for said fluid.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said part has foreign material within said cavity, and said creating step includes the step of locating said foreign material within said cavity

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said creating step is responsive to said locating step.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein said cavity has a passageway from an inlet to an outlet, and said additional opening is located downstream of said foreign material.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein said flushing step comprises high pressure cleaning.

12. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of closing said additional opening.

13. The method of claim 7, wherein said part is a blade or vane.


14. A method of repairing a part, comprising the steps of: ✓

providing a part with an internal cavity, at least one opening in communication with said cavity, and foreign material within said cavity;

creating an additional opening in said part; and

removing said foreign material;

wherein said removing step occurs through said additional opening.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said removing step comprises flushing said cavity with a fluid.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein said flushing step comprises high pressure cleaning.
17. The method of claim 14, wherein said creating step positions said additional opening adjacent said foreign material.
18. The method of claim 17, wherein said creating step positions said additional opening downstream of said foreign material.
19. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of locating said foreign material within said cavity, wherein said creating step is responsive to said locating step.
20. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of closing said additional opening.
21. The method of claim 14, wherein said part is a blade or vane.
22. A part, comprising: 
 - an exterior surface;
 - an internal cavity;
 - at least one opening through said surface and in communication with said cavity; and

a repaired section of said surface;

wherein said repaired section was an additional opening that provided a temporary exit or entrance to said cavity for removing foreign material from said cavity.

23. The part of claim 22, wherein said part is a gas turbine engine part.

24. The part of claim 22, wherein said part is a blade or vane.